Genera, Sue@Waterboards

From:

Kouyoumdjian, Patty@Waterboards

Sent:

Thursday, March 21, 2013 9:03 AM

To:

Genera, Sue@Waterboards

Subject:

FW: Request fo Public Comments

Comments for posting

From: evelio hernandez [mailto:billysup@earthlink.net]

Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2013 8:35 AM **To:** Kouyoumdjian, Patty@Waterboards **Subject:** Request fo Public Comments

-----Forwarded Message-----From: evelio hernandez Sent: Mar 20, 2013 1:29 AM

To: patty.kouyoumdian@waterboards.ca.gov Subject: Request fo Public Comments

March 19, 2013

Patty Kouyoumdjian

Executive Officer

California Regional Water Board Control Board

Lahonton Region

South Lake Tahoe, Ca. 96150

I am CAC member, Evelio "Billy" Hernandez, and I just wanted to let you know that I am really disappointed with the way things are being presented to us here in Hinkley. It seems that PG&E says something and Lisa Dernbach is backing them up as if it is a final decision. At last meeting I heard a lot of statements such as: "we are leaning towards that, "or "we are pretty sure that [manganese] isn't theirs." I let the people at that meeting know that I was very displeased with the way things were presented during that meeting. Many of the things that PG & E has done so far the community of Hinkley, have been a big disappointment to them. For example: taking out the 3A. Order, where they would have to prove that the Cr6 is not theirs. Just because they have good lawyers that figure out how to go around the things that will cause them problems, does not mean that the water board should not protect the health of the community. And then to add insult to injury, PG&E hand-picked the water replacement options for the community without giving the community the opportunity to choose which

options would best serve the needs of Hinkley, like a water line system. A water line system would save the community of Hinkley and decouple us from the contamination. It would help reboot are community. It should be stated that they options PG&E provided were later reduced to from three options to two, and that the majority of the filtration systems are still not functioning/performing at the levels they were intended to perform. Also, while promoting the filtration system, PG&E, conveniently failed to mention that bi-monthly inspections would be necessary. These inspections not only interfere with the community member's privacy but also lead to a loss of working hours in order to have someone available to open the residence for testing to occur. We argue that the plume contaminants are migrating towards the east and PG&E says it is not. However, the actions of PG&E must be reviewed, PG&E had a farm stop using its three wells and now PG&E is pumping water to that farm from Lenwood road. That action causes the plume not to be pulled in that direction. PG&E also placed the monitoring wells farther apart, which violated guidelines set by the water board ,so the plume line could not be drawn in that direction because of the spacing of the wells.

Patty, I believe that trust is a very big part of this procedure, a part in which PG&E has been failing. With that being said, the CAC wanted Mr. John Izbecki to be a huge part in providing us with a new source of data that the community is willing to accept. The way that we have been trying to bring the USGS into the procedures of finding how and what contaminants are PG&E's responsibility are very important. However, at the last manganese meeting, PG&E along with Lisa Dernbach were trying to push the process and findings of information to be final before Mr. Izbecki completes a final study. Previously PG&E had a background study done incorrectly. The CAC believes that a study should be conducted slowly and correctly, which the CAC believes the USGS will do. It is also important that final decisions are not made until after the study is complete. We do not have faith in the research and testing that PG&E has provided in the past. We have faith that Mr. Izbecki split sampling and testing procedures will be conducted in accordance to government standards and procedures.

There are a few more issues that should be given attention:

- 1) The CAC would like the IRZ to be shut down; we believe that it is leaking out of its containment area.
- 2) PG&E is not ordered to clean up arsenic or manganese, and yet these are byproducts of the IRZ procedure.
- 3) To the best of our knowledge there were no complaints of black water/manganese in years before the IRZ started.
- 4) Arsenic is more detrimental for the community than the chromium VI.

I appreciate you taking the time to listen to the concerns of the community. I hope that the impression you are getting from your representatives accurately depicts the community of Hinkley's concerns.

Thank you,

Evelio Hernandez

CAC Member

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